

President's Column

Providing the Material

There is a legend that during each year, God keeps a book in which everyone's name is written. During High Holidays, God writes down whether each of us has led a good life during the year just ending. We are at that time of year. In practical terms it means, for many of us, that summer is over, vacations have been taken and it is time to get back to work. In Jewish terms, we



Photo by Michael Beltinger

Diana Buchbinder

begin a process of looking backward at the past year, and forward to the year ahead. We look back because in order to move forward we need to remember what has already happened and think about our successes and failures. By conducting this review, we are able to plan for the coming year, recommitting to those things which are important to us.

In the past year, our congregation has undergone tremendous changes. We have completed our first year with Rabbi Litman, shared space in St. Matthew's Lutheran Church and watched our new building unfold across the street. It has been a year of growth in programming and staff creativity and a year of change. During this year, our members committed to supporting our new home. Next year, we will occupy our building, increase our programming and become a major presence in the community in ways never before possible. It is an exciting time and could not have been accomplished without the dedication, love and involvement of many of our members.

I encourage each of you to pick one new event to attend during the coming year. There are classes, services, hikes, parties, children's activities and celebrations. We will be dedicating our new building during Chanukah. A special service in November will observe the

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High Holiday Schedule

High Holiday services this year will be held at Herbst Theater, with the exception of second day Rosh Hashanah services, which will be held at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. Herbst Theater is located at 401 Van Ness Avenue at McAllister Street.

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 20

Ma'ariv 7:30 pm

Children's Programs 7:30 pm

Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 21

Shacharit 9:30 am

Children's Programs 9:30 am

Tuesday, September 22

Shacharit 9:30 am

Annual Cemetery Visit

Sunday, September 27

Hills of Eternity, Colma 10 am

Kol Nidre

Tuesday, September 29

Ma'ariv 7:30 pm

Children's Programs 7:30 pm

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, September 30

Shacharit 9:30 am

Children's Programs 9:30 am

Mincha 3:15 pm

Reading of the Names 4 pm

Children's Programs 5:30 pm

Yizkor 5:30 pm

Neilah 6:30 pm

Doors open at 6:30 pm for Erev Rosh Hashanah and Kol Nidre.

Save the Date

Mishkan Dedication

The dedication celebrations for our new building will take place over the weekend of December 18-20.

CSZ Interim Space Information

Contacting us: Our telephone, fax and e-mail remain the same.

Telephone: (415) 861-6932

Fax: (415) 861-6081

E-mail: shaarzahav@igc.apc.org

Website: www.shaarzahav.org

Writing us: Please send all roster updates, newsletter submissions, dues payments, donations and other materials to our new home. Use this address for writing to us only.

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav

290 Dolores Street

San Francisco, CA 94103-2262

Visiting us: Rabbi Litman and our office staff are sharing space with the staff of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 3281 16th Street, catty-corner from our new building. Our drop-in hours are limited. Please call us before dropping by.

Worship services: All Shabbat services, except our monthly East Bay service, are being held at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. Healing services are at Congregation Sherith Israel, 2266 California Street.

Meetings: Va'ad meetings are open to all members, and are held at 345 Church Street. (Church Street Gardens). For the location of committee meetings, contact the chair of the committee.

Rejoice With the Torah

CSZ will celebrate Simchat Torah at an evening service on October 11 at 7:30 pm at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church. We will dance with Torahs in the street and bring them to our new building (and, if construction allows, into the Mishkan). As we once again begin the cycle of reading the Torah, we will celebrate what we have created this year together—both the physical synagogue and a community that has stayed cohesive despite its wandering state.

Turn It and Turn It; Everything Is In It

The holy day of Simchat Torah is upon us. On it we read from the end of Deuteronomy, and thus celebrate the conclusion of the annual cycle of Torah parshot, and immediately read from Genesis, so beginning yet another cycle. This central rite of Simchat Torah affirms the underlying Jewish belief that Torah has no beginning and no end, that it is non-linear, and, in some profound and mysterious sense, ahistorical.



Rabbi Jane Litman

As modern American Jews, we find this belief a bit difficult to swallow. Living in a Christian society, we tend to filter even our understanding of Judaism through a Christian lens. Many of us view Torah with a literal fundamentalist perspective, and finding the perspective wanting, we abandon the substance. Others of us try to make sense of Torah through a liberal Protestant methodology in which we separate the supposedly historical particularistic "ritual laws" from the supposedly timeless universal "ethical laws," and discard the former while affirming the latter.

But Jewish tradition sees Torah as multi-level; as, if it could be said, the consciousness of the Jewish people. It is literal and interpretive, allegorical, metaphorical, and ultimately incomprehensible in the best sense of that word. This multi-level understanding is explicit in Jewish tradition. Jewish forms of engagement with Torah have historically been represented by the acronym PaRDeS, which means orchard, and is the Hebrew source of the English word, paradise. The consonants in PaRDeS are the first letters of the four most common Jewish methods of approaching Torah.

The first method is *Pshat*, or the direct meaning of the text. This is not always so easy to discern. Theologians refer to *pshat* as "narrative theology," the use of stories and tales to teach moral messages. Often the *pshat* of a Torah story has a dramatic structure that is a bit foreign to our sensibilities. Puzzling out the *pshat* of Torah can consume a fair amount of time.

The second method is *Drash* or interpretation. Every Shabbat, during services, we give room for the *drash*. One of the central aspects of bat/bar mitzvah is the presentation by the young person of her/his Torah *drash* to the congregation. *Drashot* can fill bring modern values to Torah, fill in narrative space or just generally reflect on the wisdom or ethical challenges of the *parsha*.

The two final approaches are often the most foreign to us. *Remez* refers to allegorical, metaphorical or symbolic views of the text. A tree may represent purity, a law might represent organization. The *remez* of the Torah often appears very differently to people depending on the cultural and ideological background they bring to its explication. The *Sod* is the mystical meaning of the text. It need not have any literal connection at all. Often Jewish mystics would "find" the *sod* of a text by meditating on one word or phrase. Another method is to free associate from a word or phrase.

As moderns, we sometimes privilege literalism. We imagine that the fundamentalist reading is a "true" reading, while a symbolic reading is somehow less valid. But Jewish tradition doesn't see it that way. The Torah is a living, developing revelation. It changes as successive generations of Jews engage it. Torah (as opposed to *the* Torah or pentateuch) is the unlimited process of Jewish ideology, of Jewish self-knowledge and self-creation.

On Simchat Torah, we celebrate the cycle, and during the year we live it. May engagement with Torah—in all its dimensions—be a part of your spiritual life.

Rabbi News

On October 9, Rabbi Litman's sermon topic will be "Inviting Guests into the Sukkah: A Spiritual Ushpizin."

On October 10, Rabbi Litman will lead Havdalah and deliver the invocation at the New Israel Fund dinner.

On October 15, Rabbi Litman will attend the semi-monthly meeting of the San Francisco Women Clergy, continuing her long-standing involvement with their programs.

Celebrating Sukkot

The holiday of Sukkot seems especially relevant to our community this year after spending much of the last year without a permanent home. We celebrate the harvest festival of Sukkot by eating and davening together in the temporary shelter of the Sukkah, a booth that is decorated with fruits of the harvest and is open to the sky.

CSZ is hosting two congregational Sukkot celebrations. We will begin the week-long festival together at 6:30 pm on October 4, at a potluck dinner and service in the Sukkah of Rabbi Litman, Stuart Schwartz, and Sophie and Asher Litschwartz. The following week, on October 10 at 10 am, we will celebrate Shabbat and Sukkot with Shabbat morning service and potluck in the Sukkah of Rena Frantz and Ora, Shayna and Tsipora Prochovnick. Call the synagogue to RSVP and for directions to either home.

Rabbi's Classes

Rabbi Litman's downtown lunch and learn series, *Queer Talmud*, resumes on October 13, and will take place every other Tuesday from noon–1 pm. We will continue exploring the homo-erotic relationship between Rabbi Yohannon and Resh Lakish described in Baba Metzia 84, and will examine laws about Avodah Zara, "queer worship practices." Newcomers and familiar faces are always welcome.

Rabbi Litman will teach two other fall classes, one on comparative Judaism and the other on personal spirituality. These classes will begin in November. Call the synagogue office for more information or look for details in the November *Forward*.

Dor Rishon Torah Brunch

Dor Rishon, a chavurah especially for CSZ men 40 and over, hosts a monthly Torah brunch that includes schmoozing with Jewish men, eating bagels and studying Torah. Is there a better way to celebrate Shabbat? Find out at this month's Torah brunch hosted by Sam Thal on October 24 at 10 am. Call the synagogue office for location information.

Yom Kippur in Vietnam

—Mike Rankin

Yom Kippur 1965: I was "Jewish lay leader" aboard a Navy destroyer off the coast of Vietnam near Haiphong. I had a "congregation" of about 15 sailors, all of whom knew much more about Judaism than I did.

The ship's captain had promised us an hour or two to hold a Kol Nidre service, but late in the afternoon the ship went to battle stations. An Australian base camp south of Hue was under attack from a North Vietnamese unit, and our ship was to fire around the perimeter of the camp to drive the attackers away.

The firing continued all Kol Nidre night and through most of the next day. After much loss of life on both sides, the NVA regiment withdrew, and the captain allowed us to gather on the stern of the ship for a brief service. The other sailors stayed away, giving us a rare period of privacy and quiet.

We had no machzorim, so we stumbled through a group chanting of Kol Nidre. We remembered Avinu Malkeinu, some of the Al Chets, and the Shema and Veahavtah. The ship was pitching too much to have chairs on the deck, so we stood throughout the service.

We continued with the Aleinu and V
e
-
ne-e-mar. I asked the sailors to name the loved ones they wanted to remember in our Kaddish. They did so. "And all those who died in battle today," one added softly.

When Kaddish was over, the sailor

who had added the names of those killed in the fighting, picked up a cornet he'd brought to the service. Wrapping his tallit tightly around his shoulders, David turned toward the Vietnamese coast, where the sun was setting over the lush green hills. He sounded tekiah. Then teruah and shevarim. Then a final, prolonged tekiah gadolah.

We stood in silence, lost in the emotion of the moment. Slowly we removed our tallitot and kippot and returned to our bunks inside the ship. The evening meal had almost ended, but friends had saved a "break fast" for us.

We felt the presence of God that Yom Kippur afternoon. Not a Yom Kippur has come and gone since that I do not remember it. My shipmates tell me it is the same for them.

We knew, all of us, on that Day of Awe God was with us, and was commanding us to turn from the obscenity of war toward peace. Some of us joined the Vietnam Veterans Against the War. One went with Peace Corps to help eradicate smallpox in Ethiopia. Others found their own ways of healing.

We had sworn an oath that Yom Kippur afternoon: if we survived, we would do all we could to build again, to teach others what we knew, to try with the time we had remaining to find goodness and meaning in this life.

Last December, I returned to Vietnam. I sailed into Danang and took a bus north on Highway 1 to the Hai Van pass, where my Marine base camp had been 30 years

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Welcome Meredith Fenton!

CSZ has just hired Meredith Fenton as our first youth advisor. Meredith will work with our teenagers to create a Sha'ar Zahav youth group. Meredith comes well qualified to take on this project. She just graduated from Wellesley College where she was involved in Hillel as the social vice president, played on the Rugby team and was a dj at the college radio station. While at Wellesley, Meredith started and ran a youth group at a small Reform synagogue in Boston. She was also a member of Am Tikva, the Gay and Lesbian Jewish Congregation of Boston. Since she graduated, she has been an intern at COLAGE (Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere) in San Francisco.

Meredith's position at Sha'ar Zahav has been made possible by a grant from the Horizons Foundation. We are very lucky that she has joined our staff and extend a warm welcome to her as a new member of our community.

New Member Events

Whether you are a new member of Sha'ar Zahav, a not-so-new member or a seasoned participant, the Membership Committee invites you to a potluck on Sunday, November 1, from 5-7 pm. Come meet Rabbi Litman, CSZ President Diana Buchbinder and other CSZ leaders and long-time members. This is your chance to learn more about Sha'ar Zahav, find out about CSZ's many different activities and opportunities to get involved, schmooze with other CSZ'niks, and enjoy great food.

The potluck will be in the community room at 345 Church Street (between 15th and 16th Streets), behind the home of Alex Ingersoll and David Stein. Please bring a vegetarian or dairy dish or dessert—enough to share with about six other people. Kids, partners, family and friends are welcome. For more information and to RSVP, call Sara Haber (621-1248) or Ami Zusman (510/339-6143).

During Erev Shabbat services on Friday, November 6, we will welcome and celebrate with new members who have joined the CSZ community during the past half year. Please join us!

Dinner and a movie — again?! . . . Try something *OLD!*

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OCTOBER 18, 4PM, Temple Sinai, Oakland

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New Building, New Logo

—Alex Ingersoll

Earlier this year, when the office moved out of Danvers Street, it was obvious we would need new stationery to include our new address. We decided to explore a whole new look, including a new logo, to use in all printed and electronic materials. You may have noticed our new logo, which appears on our new stationery.

Prior to Rosh Hashanah 1984, our logo was composed of six discrete, overlapping triangles, alternating light and dark (black and white), with a curvilinear Lambda in the middle.



We adopted a new logo in September 1984, based on the logo of Am Tikva, our sibling congregation in Boston: the familiar solid Magen David, with a Lambda cutout.



The Magen David dates back to the 17th century, when it

became popular to use the symbol to identify synagogues. Although commonly assumed to depict the "shield of David," there is no historical corroboration for this.

The first appearance of the Lambda



CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV

Member, Union of American Hebrew Congregations and
World Congress of Gay & Lesbian Jewish Organizations

in connection with gay and lesbian movements was in 1970 when it was adopted by New York Gay Activists Alliance.

Our new logo combines these two symbols, reworked in an original manner. Les Silverman of STG Graphics, the designer of the logo and long-time friend of the congregation, reviewed our architectural plans with Alice Prussin and created a design that makes a statement regarding our new presence in the community.

Check out our Website at www.shaarzahav.org to see the detail of the design — or watch for mail from the office.

Are you on the Net?

Visit our web site at

www.shaarzahav.org

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Members of the congregation receive the *Forward*. For \$18/year, nonmembers will receive a *Forward* subscription.

Members of the Newsletter Committee

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Typesetting: David Lester, Mouse Type Inc.

Printing: Genesis Printing & Graphics

Distribution: Mail It Right

Display Ads are \$15 per column inch for nonmembers and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

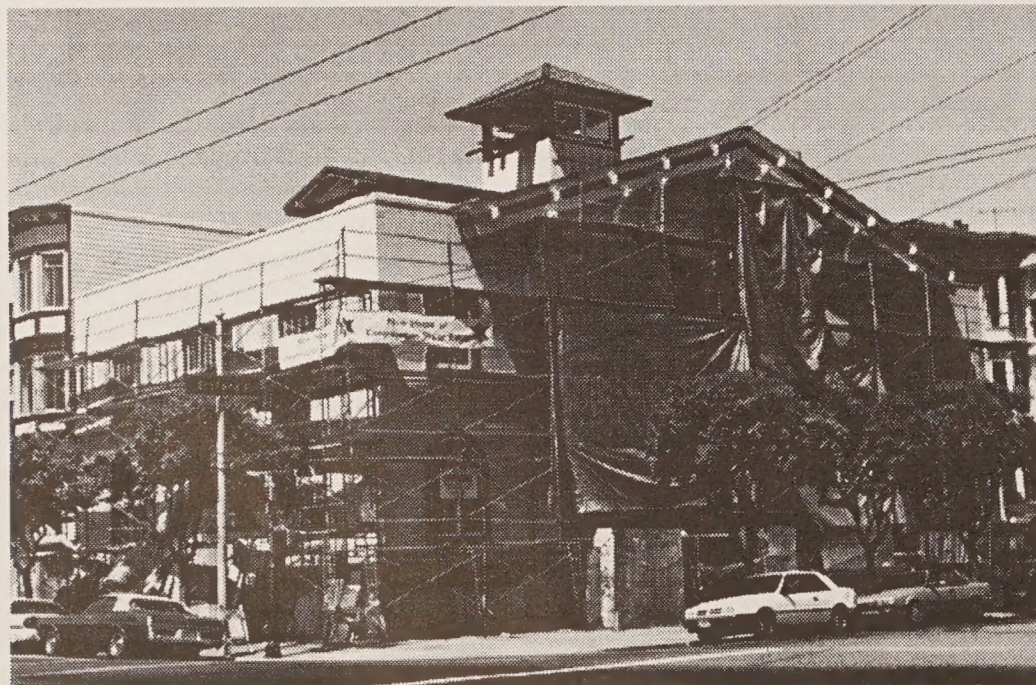
Classified Ads are \$5 for up to 20 words, plus \$1 for each 10 additional words. No personals accepted.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 290 Dolores St., San Francisco, California 94103, marked: attention *Forward* advertising. We reserve the right to reject any ad.

October 1998/Volume 22, Issue 2.

Designers Needed

Do you have a creative eye? Do you enjoy working with layout and design? The Membership Committee has begun redesigning our membership brochure. If you can help with the presentation and format, please contact Trudi Hauptman at 334-5785 or truhand@aol.com.



Construction progress on Mishkan Dolores. Photo by Michael Bettinger.

Kadimah Korner

—David Shneer, Educator

The month of October plans to be an exciting time for Kadimah. We will be holding classes and other activities at our temporary space at Golden Gate Lutheran Church (19th and Dolores) until the great day when we can all move into the Mishkan. Classes will get underway after High Holiday activities.

Kadimah's October calendar

October 3—Kadimah classes

October 10—Kadimah classes, Sukkot celebration

October 17—Kadimah classes

October 23—Family Shabbat Dinners

October 24—Kadimah classes

October 31—Kadimah classes

In addition, Kadimah's Hebrew classes for Kitah Dahlet will be meeting every Wednesday afternoon from 4 to 6 pm.

I also want to introduce the expanded Kadimah teaching staff, bigger and better than ever:

Gan (kindergarten)—Jessica Wertlieb

Kitah Aleph—Sarita Groisser and Devra Felder Noily

Kitah Bet—Dana Schneider

Kitah Gimel—Patricia Lin

Kitah Dahlet—Jennifer Levinson

Kitah Dahlet Hebrew class—Phyllis Mintzer

Future *Forward* issues will have biog-

raphies of our teachers. Sha'ar Zahav, Kadimah, the parents and the children are very lucky to have such a talented group of teachers.

In other news, thanks to our two outside sponsors, who are helping make the expansion and improvement in Kadimah possible. First, thanks to Sinai Memorial Chapel for its continuing support. (See article on this page.) Second, thanks to the Bureau of Jewish Education for awarding Kadimah a school improvement grant. These funds are underwriting our new midweek Hebrew program.

Tot Events

Sukkot

Come shake, rattle and roll at the tot Sukkot celebration. We will shake the lulav, smell the etrog and help the Frantz-Prochovnick family decorate their Sukkah. All toddlers, preschoolers and their families and friends are invited to join the fun on Sunday, October 4 at 2 pm at 47 Cuvier Street in San Francisco.

Tot Shabbat in the East Bay

At this month's tot Shabbat, we will talk about the stories of creation in addition to singing our regular Shabbat songs and prayers. The tot Shabbat service will be preceded by a Shabbat dinner, both of which will be held at a member's home in the East Bay on Friday, October 23 at 6:30 pm. Call Renée in the office for location information.

Leah Halperin Bat Mitzvah

Leah Halperin will be called to the Torah on the occasion of her bat mitzvah, Saturday, October 17. Leah is an 8th grader at the Discovery School in San Francisco, where her favorite subjects are English (she loves to read and write), history (she likes to learn about different cultures and times) and science (she loves learning about animals).



Leah Halperin

In fact, Leah loves animals so much that she wants to be a veterinarian. She has three pets—Zebbie the dog, Wizard the cat and Anne the guppy. Leah takes horseback riding lessons and volunteers at Pet Camp (owned by CSZ's Virginia Donohue and Mark Klaiman). When she's not busy with school work and animals, Leah runs for her school's track team.

Leah wants to especially thank her teacher, Phyllis Mintzer. She also thanks her tutor, Mark Klaiman, and Rabbi Jane for helping her prepare for her "celebration of her coming of age."

The congregation extends a mazel tov to Leah, her mothers Janis Medina, Susan Halperin and Susan Williams, and her father Adli.

Sinai Memorial Chapel Funds Kadimah

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is grateful to Sinai Memorial Chapel for its generous gift to our religious school. This year's grant is an increase over previous years, and underscores Sinai's ongoing commitment to our community. The subvention sponsors Kadimah's excellent and innovative kindergarten program which includes a special curriculum for children of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender families. We are particularly proud of the far-sighted efforts of our member Richard Inlander who sits on the Sinai Memorial Chapel Board. We look forward to continued partnership in the future.



*Thanks to member support,
I have contributed over
\$4,000 to Mishkan Dolores.
Thank you!*



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Rachel Mailman z"l

—Becky Dixon

As if knowing she would have to leave too early, Rachel Mailman came into this life on September 17, 1956 – 12 Tishri 5717, two weeks prematurely. Rachel was born in Youngstown, Ohio, the youngest child of Audry and Harold Mailman.

While in high school, Rachel interned at a women's reproductive health clinic and at a nursing care facility. These experiences convinced Rachel that she wanted a career in nursing, so she went to the University of Colorado where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. She moved to San Francisco in 1981.

Here, Rachel worked at the Breast Screening Center of UCSF until 1988 when she left the Center to get her Masters at UCSF's Nurse Practitioner Program.

Although her illness precluded intense involvement in the CSZ community, several years ago Rachel served on the steering committee of the 12th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews, which CSZ hosted in 1991.

Rachel also took Hebrew classes from Phyllis Mintzer and was involved in Phyllis' two-year Chevrah for Jewish Life. Phyllis remembers her as lively and dynamic in her participation, and upholding a very strong Jewish identity and a really strong love of her family. During class, Rachel never failed to stop in and visit with Phyllis' mother, Harriet Opal, who was quite ill at the time and living in Phyllis and George's home. Rachel would enter the bedroom and say "Mrs. Opal, I have come to bring you a good thought."

At the age of 37, Rachel felt a pain in her side one evening at work and, following a scan, was immediately admitted for surgery that revealed she had ovarian cancer. Rachel faced this challenge with characteristic flair. Returning home after her first chemo, she looked up at her mother after a bout of nausea and quipped, "This may not be as much fun as I thought."

Knowing how important her Judaism and the holidays were to Rachel, friends visited her in the hospital at Chanukah and lit the menorah—setting off the smoke alarm.

In December 1996, she met Becky Dixon and fell in love the way she'd always wanted. Rachel moved into Becky's home in July 1997, where they spent an idyllic summer gardening and traveling. It meant a lot to Rachel and Becky to attend Kol Nidre last year, knowing it would probably be Rachel's last. Over and over in the service they were exhorted, "Choose life," and that's what Rachel did. To those who knew her, Rachel's great spiritual gift was to demonstrate how to be wholeheartedly engaged in life. Even when she was groggy with illness, Rachel would snap alert to counsel a troubled friend over the phone.

Rachel died at home in a bed overlooking her beloved garden, early in the morning of July 1, 1998 – 7 Tammuz 5758. She was conscious, holding hands with Becky and her brother Paul, her expression free of pain and fear. On her refrigerator still hangs her credo: "Today I will imagine that, when I die, I will explode into new life. I will also imagine exploding into new life right now, without dying."

Diversity at CSZ

On a Sunday evening in late August, 20 Sha'ar Zahavniks gathered at Golden Gate Lutheran Church for the third in a series of diversity dialogues sponsored by the Talmud Torah/Adult Education committee. This one focused on the politics of hair.

The evening began with the screening of the movie *Juggling Gender*, a documentary film about a bearded Jewish lesbian. The movie challenged the audience's assumptions about gender identity and its cultural construction. This was the perfect entry into the panel discussion about how we use our hair to create our identity.

Over the next few months, the Talmud Torah/Adult Education Committee will continue with this series of diversity dialogues, which gives us a chance to explore the variety and richness in our congregational family. The next dialogue will be about Zionism and Israel and will take place on Sunday, October 18 at 7 pm. Other upcoming topics include:

- Kids at CSZ: A dialog for parents and nonparents
- Young, old and in-between at CSZ.

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Time-Traveling With the Torah

—Nina Wouk

Simchat Torah reshapes linear time as circular, taking us from the end to the beginning. As the Talmud points out, "there is no before or after in Torah." God is always creating light; Abraham's knife is always poised over Isaac; we are always being rescued at the sea; and Moses is always breathing his last. How can an eternal story have an ending?

Letting the cycle of Torah reading conclude did not appeal to our ancestors. Thus arose the ingenious, consistent central ritual of Simchat Torah—reading the last lines of the last portion and immediately starting again with creation. Simchat Torah recounts the death of our leader Moses, leaves us poised on the brink of precarious independence in our own land, and whirls us back to God's continual creation of our universe. No wonder this dizzying reversal is traditionally associated with drunkenness!

However, every Torah service also contains a time-traveling, time-reversing aspect. It was designed to recreate our people's experience evolving with the Torah, from superstitious dependence on its physical presence to heart-deep clinging to its eternal teachings. Rather than simply referring to these experiences, the service lets us reenact them.

To alter the liturgy is to lose some of this depth. In the traditional formula for opening the ark, the congregation recites from Bamidbar/Numbers: "When the ark would go forward, Moses used to say, 'Rise, God, and disperse your enemies, scatter those who hate you from before you.'" To us, these words sound violent and uncomfortable. But they are not there only for us, but to help all generations understand the frightened wandering ex-slaves who originated Judaism. To them, ritual was inseparable from superstition, as it has been for countless people throughout most of human history. Their Torah was a source of magical protection, that they held before themselves like a shield against danger.

The next line of the service, from Tehillim/Psalms, reflects a later and more abstract reality: "For from Zion shall come forth the Torah, and the word of God from Jerusalem." In the days of the Temple, with the security of national

borders and a standing army, with the actual ark hidden away in the Temple where not even the High Priest ever saw it, Israelites had a more sophisticated understanding of what that ark contained. They understood Torah literally, as "teaching," as the source of law.

We divide the laws into ethical and ritual commandments. Our ancestors of Temple times, making the same division, often chose the ritual over the ethical, earning the prophets' rage and disgust. However, ideally, there was no separation. Ideally, the priests both performed ritual and taught the Torah's spiritual and ethical wisdom. The pageantry and drama of the Temple service were meant to reinforce all the commandments, from fasting on Yom Kippur to not muzzling the ox that grinds the corn.

Like most ideals, this one was never realized. However, the attempt to realize it gave rise to public Torah reading. On Sukkot, the fall pilgrimage festival, the abstract act of study became part of the public Temple ritual. During roughly the same historical period, Jewish communities began the practice of reading publicly from the Torah on Shabbat and market days, days of assembly, hearing about the Temple ritual as a way of sharing it even from a distance. Thus Torah literally and figuratively spread forth from Jerusalem.

In the modern synagogue service, before the Torah actually leaves the ark, history takes another drastic leap, to

rabbinic times. After the destruction of state, army and Temple, public ritual could focus only on Torah reading. The Jews were now in much the same position as their landless, homeless, ancestors of Moses' time. But the rabbinic bracha shows a greatly changed understanding: The superstitious fear is gone, replaced by confident gratitude.


Brachot were unknown in Moses' time. Tradition attributes them to Ezra's Great Assembly, the religious authorities of early second Temple times. Rabbinic of the Talmudic era prescribed the standard forms for brachot and recorded a great number still in standard use. In the modern Torah service, we use the rabbinic bracha: "Blessed is the One who gave the Torah to Israel in holiness." Despite the dire situation of the exiled generation, the bracha contains no word about enemies or survival, simply thanks for revelation, wisdom, and on-going partnership with God.

After the Torah reading, the traditional siddur includes a meditation before replacing it in the ark: "When the ark rested, Moses would say, Rest, O God, among the multitudes of Israel. Arise, O God, . . . that your priests may be clothed in righteousness and your devoted ones shout for joy. For the sake of David your servant, turn not away the face of your anointed/messiah." Again, time telescopes: The supplication that begins back in the desert with Moses hurries forward to a prayer for the restoration of the Temple and messianic age!

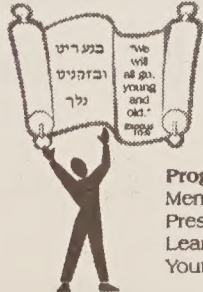
God replies simply: "For I have given you good instruction; do not abandon my Torah!" The wish of any generation is already granted, says God, if we do our part.

This meditation introduces the familiar song *Etz chaim hi*—"She is a tree of life to those who cling fast to her, an inner source of strength inalienable even in the worst circumstances." The closing words of the Torah service underline this assurance: "Turn us to you, God, and we will be turned; renew our days as at the beginning." These are the final lines read from Eicha/Lamentations, on Tisha B'Av, in mourning for all our historical tragedies. Like

Continued on page 9


 Union of American Hebrew Congregations,
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Registration brochures will be mailed in mid-October. For additional information contact: Union of American Hebrew Congregations, Northern California Council, 703 Market St., Suite 1300, San Francisco, CA 94103 (415) 392-7080 • Toll Free (888) 754-8242 • uahncsf@aol.com

Social Action in Action

—Laura Lowe, co-chair

AIDS Memorial Grove

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and Jewish Family and Children's Services co-sponsored a clean-up of the AIDS Memorial Grove in Golden Gate Park on Sunday, August 9. About 60 volunteers braved the cold and fog to help clean the river bed area. We scraped the accumulated mud off the rocks, raked debris and planted small bushes along the edge of the riverbed.

On behalf of the Tikkun Olam/Social Action Committee, we would like to thank all of the volunteers for their hard work. You made this a successful event! We would also like to thank Safeway and Mollie Stone's for their generous donations of food and beverages.

Upcoming Events

• **Habitat For Humanity:** Put on a hard hat and your work boots and join us on October 11 to build condominiums with Habitat for Humanity. CSZ and St. Ignatius Church will join together to raise funds and be a part of the construction of four condominiums in the Mission district.

We need unskilled and skilled, enthusiastic volunteers to help with a variety of construction tasks and lunch preparation. Each participant is asked to help raise money to fund the project. Our workday will start at 10 am. Contact Renée in the office or Laura (247-2409) with further questions.

• **Dolores Street Community Services:** We are currently working with Dolores Street Community Services to set up an ongoing good neighbor relationship. We are planning for a November volunteer program to help feed the residents of Cohen House, a residence for people living with AIDS.

Next door to the Cohen House, Dolores Street Community Services runs

a Latino men's shelter. They have told us that most of the homeless population they serve are the working poor. What the shelter needs most are toilets for shelter guests and other homeless people that they are forced to turn away. The Tikkun Olam/Social Action Committee is in the early stages of developing an ongoing project to meet that specific need. So, the next time you travel, set aside those small bars of soap, toothpaste and shampoo and stay tuned for more details in the next *Forward*.

• **Projects in the Works:** In December, we will again be volunteering for Project Open Hand during the Christmas holidays. We will need people for food preparation, meal assembly and delivery. Last year was a great success and we are looking forward to another Christmas with Open Hand.

In the first quarter of 1999, we will be working with the San Francisco Interfaith Council to cook and serve a meal to the homeless.

We are also in the early stages of planning a Friday lunch project in the Tenderloin. Jewish Family and Children's Services serves lunch to Jewish seniors living in the Tenderloin. We will be calling on our members to help sponsor one of the lunches. We will help serve the lunch, visit the seniors, participate in a sing-a-long and contribute financially to the cost of providing the meal.

Thank You

Thanks to the generous spirit of the CSZ community we have sponsored many successful projects during the last year. With your continued involvement and enthusiasm, we can look forward to a new year of helping our community. If you would like to help us plan any project or if you have project ideas, call Renée in the office.

Queer Yiddish Kopf

—Greer Lindsey Hauptman,
Kadimah graduate

I am Jewish because Jewish jokes
(the non anti-Semitic ones)
make my heart sing

Because Yiddish is music to my
ears

I am Jewish because I have a
Jewish nose and big hips

I am Jewish because I am the
supreme ruler and I say I am

I am Jewish because well, who
says I am

I am Jewish because galaxies
move and planets spin out of
their orbits

I am Jewish because I kibbitz and
I kvetch

I am Jewish because I yam what I
yam

I am Jewish because Queer
Yiddishkeit

I am Jewish because guilt

I am Jewish because assimilation

Because shtetls ghettos

I am Jewish because an orange on
a seder plate

Because dybbuks

Because golems run with me and
teach me

I am Jewish because Hitler

I am Jewish because twist the
knife why don't you

I am Jewish because just because

H

Y

C

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Trail Midrash: Jacob Rothman, Stephan Howard, Jeff Piade, Stephen Bayer and Beth Souza. Photo by Sarita Groisser.

Torah

Continued from page 7

our ancestors in the desert, we have survived terrible things and look forward to uncertainty; and, like them, we are strengthened by the Torah's presence and teachings.

Each time we publicly read from the Torah, the service reminds us that it has been with us from the beginning, in times of prosperity and times of disaster, and that our understanding of it has evolved. From magical protection, it became the source of power and prosperity; further, it became the sign and source of the values and mission that held us together as a community. Simchat Torah carries us surging through the end of the Torah's tale back to its beginning, which is also our beginning. As in interpreting Torah, so in its ritual use, there is no before or after, only the continuing encounter with eternity.

HIV + Support Group

CSZ has an ongoing drop-in support group for members living with HIV/AIDS and their families and partners each month, in addition to quarterly Shabbat dinners. Mark your calendars:

- Saturday, October 10 at 3 pm: Drop-in support group, location TBA.
- Friday, October 30 at 6 pm: Catered dinner, location TBA.

For more information or to RSVP for the October 30 dinner by October 27, please call the synagogue office.

*Remember to bring
nonperishables to
Yom Kippur services
to benefit
Project Open Hand*

Trail Midrash

Trail Midrash, a Shabbat morning program that combines hiking and Torah study, has been taking place monthly for the last six months. The Talmud Torah/Adult Education Committee has decided to broaden the appeal of the program by alternating each month between an intermediate hike and an easier beginners' hike. This month, on October 24, Jacob Rothman will lead an intermediate hike of seven to ten miles on Mt. Tamalpais. Be prepared to challenge yourself as group members hike and study Torah. Meet at 9 am at the corner of 16th and Dolores Streets. Call Renée in the office for more details.

Yom Kippur

Continued from page 3

before. There is a rest stop and a souvenir stand at the pass now, but our old bunker complex was still there. Fortunately, it was half a mile up a fairly steep grade, so the tourists on the bus stayed below to buy postcards.

I walked up the trail and into the bunker. The memories flooded back. I said Kaddish there for my buddies who did not return, and a prayer for inner peace and healing for those who did.

Walking down the hill, I encountered a young Vietnamese boy, about ten years old. Glowering at me, the old enemy, he took an aggressive boxer's stance and punched the air vigorously. I grinned and waved to him. Surprised, he lowered his fists, grinned and waved back. I knew then why I had returned to Vietnam. I felt the presence of God on that narrow path, as surely as I had on the fantail of my ship, so many years before.

May the One who makes peace in the heavens make peace here on earth. For us. For Israel. For Vietnam. And for all the world. Amen.

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Participants Needed

Do you identify as a Jewish lesbian, bisexual, transgendered or queer woman? Participants are needed for a dissertation study. Participation is easy. Questionnaires can be completed online at www.transbay.net/~slk, or received through the mail by calling Susie Kisber (789-8337).

Members' Yahrzeits

| | |
|----|--------------------------------|
| 6 | Jeffrey Miller |
| 8 | Duane Kearns Puryear |
| 8 | Rabbi Ben Marcus |
| 13 | Harry Clinton Bigglestone, III |
| 18 | Henry Mautner |
| 24 | Glenn Murray Miller |
| 29 | Michael Mohr |

Castro Street Fair

CSZ's Membership and Gift Shop Committees will staff a booth at this year's Castro Street Fair on October 4. Stop by and show your support!

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Anniversaries

| | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Brian Ellis and Steve Farmer |
| 12 | Alex Ingersoll and David Stein |
| 19 | Lezlie Frishman and Ellen Goldstein |
| 20 | Hilary Zaid and Lauren Augusta |
| 23 | Steven Gaynes and Richard Bolingbroter |
| 28 | Bill Goldstein and Chris Archuleta |

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

Naches

To **Kathy Simon and Inbal Kashtan**, on the birth of their son, Yannai Simon Kashtan.

To **Michael Shaps**, on the arrival of his son, Samuel Darius Shaps.

To **Eloise Magenheimer**, on the birth of her son, Yaari Harkavy Magenheimer.

To **Michael Schwartz**, on being called to the Torah as a bar mitzvah.

To **Lucy Bernholz**, on taking a Hebrew name.

To **Debby Gelber and Avi Pfeffer**, on their marriage.

To **Louisa Stone and Jim Frazin**, on their commitment ceremony.



Construction progress on Mishkan Dolores. Photo by Michael Bettinger.

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President's Column

Continued from page 1

20th anniversary of the death of Harvey Milk. We celebrate Shabbat every Friday night and study Torah every Saturday morning. And please, introduce yourself to me or to one of the other officers, so we can welcome you. L'shana tova.

Condolences

We extend our condolences to members who have suffered recent losses:

Shelley Eisenman, on the death of her father, Jerome Eisenman.

Rafael Klouczensky, on the death of his mother, Rebecca Klouczensky.

Mike Rankin, on the death of his friend, Ted Ray.

Mark Bowers, on the death of his friend, James Abrams.

Bernard Pechter, on the death of his friend, Bill Schwartz.

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Contributions

Adult Education Fund

Bea Lieberman, in memory of Rachel Mailman.

Jeffrey Rubin, in memory of Amie Herscovici.

Lucy Bernholz, with thanks to Rabbi Litman.

David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, in honor of Michael Schwartz's becoming a bar mitzvah.

Lucy Bernholz, with thanks to Paul Cohen.
Paula Fleisher, in honor of Lucy Bernholz's taking a Hebrew name.

Bikkur Cholim Fund

Phyllis and George Mintzer, with prayers for the health of John Atteridg.

Phyllis and George Mintzer, in memory of Rachel Mailman.

Children's Education Fund

David Stein and Alex Ingersoll, in honor of Jonah Levy's becoming a bar mitzvah.

Gail Persily and Denise Fordham, in memory of Jerome Eisenman.

Phyllis and George Mintzer, in memory of Harry Opal and Issac Mintzer.

Robin Leonard and Tory Weiser, in memory of Jerome Eisenman.

Seth Frohman, Rafi Hoch and Claire Hoch-Frohman, in memory of Herbert Frohman.

General Fund

Adam Frey, in memory of Amie Herscovici.
Allan Giannini, in memory of Mary Lou Giannini.

Douglas Lyle Szmyd, in honor of Michael Schwartz's becoming a bar mitzvah.

Gordon Osser, in memory of Amie Herscovici.

Jerry Geffner, in memory of Rachel Mailman.

Jonathan Funk and John Arnold, in memory of Joseph Wiseman.

Judy Miller, in memory of Rachel Mailman.

Kenny Altman, in memory of Amie Herscovici.

Paula Fleisher, in memory of Jerry Rosenthal.

Seth Charney, in memory of Morris Charney.

Terry Rose, in memory of Maurice Ash.

Harvey Milk Social Action Fund

Eli Weinstein, in honor of Barak Gale's efforts for the Headwaters Forest.

Inclusive Liturgy Fund

Mike Rankin, in memory of Congressperson Lacey Davenport.

Mishkan Dolores Fund

Nancy Meyer and Daniel Meyer-O'Keeffe, with thanks to all their friends for the donations in memory of Marilyn O'Keeffe.

Marian Talansky.

Arthur B. Cohen.

Julia Friedlander.

Robin Leonard and Tory Weiser, in memory of Amie Herscovici.

James Carlson, in honor of Paul Cohen.

Jeff Piade, in memory of Amie Herscovici.

Jerry Polansky and Mark Schoenberg, in memory of Betty Schoenberg and Shirley Polansky.

Robin Leonard and Tory Weiser, in memory of Jackie Weiss.

Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Joe Hample, in loving memory of his mother, Amie Herscovici.

Alan Ferrara and Allan Gold, in memory of Amie Herscovici.

Bernard Pechter, in honor of Sarah Comerchero for nursing him back to health physically, spiritually and emotionally.

Alan Ferrara and Allan Gold, in memory of Marilyn Katz.

Debby Gelber and Avi Pfeffer, with thanks for Rabbi Jane Litman's officiation at their wedding.

Alan Ferrara, in memory of Jon Weisenger.

Special thanks to **Mike Rankin** for his donation to underwrite Dor Rishon events, in memory of Amie Herscovici.

Oneg Sponsors

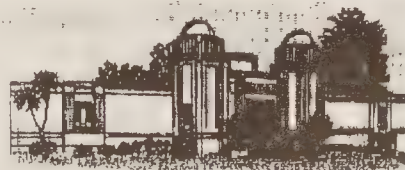
These generous people sponsored the Oneg Shabbat in recent weeks:

8/21 Jonah Levy's family, in honor of Jonah becoming a bar mitzvah.

8/28 Prudence Carter, in loving memory of Sheryl Brooks.

9/11 Debby Gelber and Avi Pfeffer, in celebration of their aufruf.

9/18 Randy Alfred, in loving memory of his parents, Cypora and Pete Alfred.



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New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our congregation gained the following new members this month. A warm welcome to the most recent people to join our family:

Dori Elizabeth Ehrlich

Mike Klayman

Nancy Elisabeth Brunn

Sheila Valencia Manalo

Joshua Kosman, Nan Wiener

and Naomi Kosman-Wiener

David Posner

Amanda Littauer and Laura Steele

Kimberly Warsaw and Judith Holiber

Mindy Bokser

Howard Steierman

We are grateful to see our congregation grow. It is up to all of us to help our new members feel welcome as they become active participants in our community.

Classifieds

SEEKING A CARETAKER: Full time/live out. Integral part of resident SF informal household. Dog, garden, fish, errands, some cooking and entertaining. Basic home maintenance and repair. No housekeeping. Must have own car. Must speak and write English fluently. Please reply to 415-885-4063 (fax) or 415-885-5554 (phone).

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SEARCHING FOR SHARE RENTAL: Former CSZ member Bill Ashley-Dobbin is looking to come home. I am a gay 54-year-old nonsmoker living on a fixed income. I can pay about \$300 per month. After laughter contact Leonard Brill locally at 824.7580, or Bill at 1010 University Avenue #157 San Diego, CA 92103-3398, 619.284.8919

CSZ TEEN looking for babysitting and mother's helper work. Call G. Lindsey at 334-4784 for information.

GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDERED physicians and medical students: join your BAPHR colleagues for "liver rounds" at Mecca, 2029 Market Street near Dolores, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm the second Friday of every month! Mecca is a short walk to Sha'ar Zahav – socialize before services!



Birthdays

| | |
|----|-------------------------|
| 2 | Gregory Rubin |
| 2 | Sharyn Saslafsky |
| 2 | Kyle West |
| 3 | Miriam Heath Katz |
| 4 | David Feinstein Shor |
| 4 | Richard Inlander |
| 4 | Mark Mackler |
| 4 | Julie Moed |
| 5 | Benjamin Bernard-Herman |
| 5 | Karin Rubenstein |
| 7 | Randy Heilbrunn |
| 7 | Michael Zimmerman |
| 8 | Marc Cohen |
| 9 | Stephen Hauptman |
| 11 | Forrest Kincade |
| 12 | Debra Chasnoff |
| 12 | Jeffrey Lilly |
| 12 | Beth Sousa |
| 13 | Anna Desmond Bernstein |
| 13 | Toby Dyer |
| 13 | David Gellman |
| 13 | Brian Jersky |
| 14 | Michael Bettinger |
| 14 | Sharon Tanenbaum |
| 15 | Tsipora Prochovnick |
| 16 | Bill Denebeim |
| 16 | Joanne Hirschmann |
| 16 | Richard Meyerson |
| 16 | Anna Schwartz-Cohen |
| 17 | Adam Sigal |
| 18 | Steven Horowitz |
| 19 | Jonathan Katz |
| 20 | Donald Berger |
| 20 | Bernard Pechter |
| 23 | Roberta Achtenberg |
| 23 | Wanderson Carlos |
| 23 | Seth Charney |
| 23 | Ma'ayan Lieberman |
| 24 | Shuli Goodman |
| 24 | Rafael Klouczensky |
| 24 | Rachel Maclachlan |
| 25 | Alison Austin |
| 25 | Judith Cohen |
| 25 | Francine Frohlich |
| 25 | Julia Reiser Shorofsky |
| 26 | Ilana Bernstein |
| 26 | Susan Swigart |
| 27 | Emma Goldstein |
| 27 | Sarah Goldstein |
| 27 | Bruce Henry |
| 27 | Sanford Lowe |
| 28 | Batya Billinkoff |
| 28 | Nina Hall |
| 28 | Rabbi Yoel Kahn |
| 28 | Rae Lorvick-Patt |
| 28 | Ilana Rainero-de Haan |
| 29 | Allan Berenstein |
| 29 | Brian Edlin |
| 29 | Pamela Miller |



Synagogue Information

Rabbi Jane Litman

Officers:

President, Diana Buchbinder
(337-6319 or
threebuchs@sprynet.com)
First Vice President, David Gellman
Second Vice President, Susan
Tubbesing
Treasurer, Arthur Slepian
Recorder, Joe Hample

Va'ad (Board) Members:

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Jeff Forman
Sarita Groisser
Sara Haber
Robin Leonard
Eileen Levy
Julie Moed
Jacob Rothman
Robert Tat

CSZ Staff:

Educator, David Shneer
Administrator, Lea Salem
Program Director, Renée Bauer
Kadimah Head Teacher, Phyllis Mintzer
Administrative Assistant, Charlotte Smith
Youth Advisor, Meredith Fenton

Committee Chairs:

Adult Education, Sue Bojdak
Archives, open
ARZA contact, Ron Lezell
Baby Chavurah, Lisa Katz
Bequests and Donations, Richard
Inlander
Bikkur Cholim, David Shaber
Bisexual Chavurah, Jim Frazin
Book Group, Mark Mackler
Bylaws, Edward Pollock
Cemetery, Richard Inlander
Children's Education Board, Ruth
Rainero
Cookbook Project, Robin Leonard
Dor Rishon, Sam Messler
Dues Liaison, Sara Haber
East Bay Services, Hilary Zaid
Endowment Fund, Merry Luskin
Environmental Action, Barak Gale and
Brian Besser

Finance, Arthur Slepian
Fine Arts, Robert Gutterman
Gift Shop, Jeff Rubin
La'atid, Geoff Benjamin
Leadership Development, Paul Cohen
Library, forming
Long-Range Planning, Allan Gold
Membership, Ami Zusman
Mishkan Dolores Overall, Tiela
Chalmers
Mishkan Dolores Fundraising,
Ellie Cohen and Lisa Katz
*Mishkan Dolores Architecture
and Design*, Alice Prussin
Newsletter, Robin Leonard
Past Presidents Council, Merry Luskin
Personnel, Susan Tubbesing
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky
Rabbi Liaison, Allan Gold
Ritual, Lyssa Friedman
Social Action, Laura Lowe and
Allan Berenstein
Toddler/Pre-school Chavurah, Ilana
Bernstein
UAHC National Liaison, Mike Rankin
UAHC Regional Liaison, Daniel Chesir
WCGLJO Liaison, Neil Grungras
Women's Chavurah, open

*Members wishing to contact any Va'ad member or committee chair
are invited to obtain his or her number from the synagogue office.*

Bikkur Cholim: If you or a friend who is a member of Sha'ar Zahav is ill in the hospital or at home, and would like to have a member of the Bikkur Cholim Committee call or visit, please notify the synagogue office.

Member of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and of the World Congress

of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

Services are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 pm (except as noted), with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the second Saturday of each month at 10 am — check calendar for each month.

1 Thursday
11 Tishri

2 Friday
12 Tishri

- 6:34 pm, Candle lighting
- 7 pm, Early service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Ha'azinu, led by Paul Cohen and Lyssa Friedman

3 Saturday
13 Tishri

- 9:30 am, Kadimah, Golden Gate Lutheran Church

4 Sunday
14 Tishri

- Erev Sukkot
- 2 pm, Sukkot Tot event, 47 Cuvier Street
- 6:30 pm, Sukkot Celebration, Rabbi Litman's home

5 Monday
15 Tishri

- Sukkot, office closed
- 6 pm, Ruach Ami Healing Service, Sherith Israel
- 7 pm, Children's Education Board

6 Tuesday
16 Tishri

- Sukkot, office closed
- 6:30 pm, Dues Committee

7 Wednesday
17 Tishri

- 4 pm, Kadimah, Golden Gate Lutheran Church
- 7 pm, Newsletter editing

Note: Gray areas indicate religious services.

8 Thursday
18 Tishri

- Sukkot in Sonoma (UAHC), Jewish Food and Wine Experience
- 6:30 pm, Ritual Committee High Holiday review

9 Friday
19 Tishri

- Sukkot in Sonoma (UAHC), Jewish Food and Wine Experience
- 6:23 pm, Candle lighting
- 7:15 pm, Niggun Service, led by Jhos Singer
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Chol Hamoed Sukkot, led by Rabbi Litman and Jhos Singer

10 Saturday
20 Tishri

- Sukkot in Sonoma (UAHC), Jewish Food and Wine Experience
- 9:30 am, Kadimah
- 10 am, Shabbat service, led by Ora Prochovnick and Leah Halperin, 47 Cuvier Street
- 3 pm, HIV Support Group

11 Sunday
21 Tishri

- Sukkot in Sonoma (UAHC), Jewish Food and Wine Experience
- 10 am, Habitat for Humanity, Building on Faith
- 7:30 pm, Simchat Torah, led by Rabbi Litman and Daniel Chesir

12 Monday
22 Tishri

- Simchat Torah, office closed
- 6:30 pm, Va'ad meeting
- 7 pm, Newsletter layout and proofreading

13 Tuesday
23 Tishri

14 Wednesday
24 Tishri

- 4 pm, Kadimah, Golden Gate Lutheran Church

15 Thursday
25 Tishri

- 7 pm, Bikkur Cholim Committee

16 Friday
26 Tishri

- 6:13 pm, Candle lighting
- 8:15 pm, East Bay service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service, led by Rabbi Litman, Tova Green and Annie Downs; sermon by Bernard Pechter

17 Saturday
27 Tishri

- 9:30 am, Kadimah
- 10 am, Bat mitzvah of Leah Halperin, led by Rabbi Litman and Tiela Chalmers, Congregation Emanu-El

18 Sunday
28 Tishri

- 7 pm, Diversity Dialogue, Zionism and Israel

19 Monday
29 Tishri

- 6 pm, Ruach Ami Healing service, Sherith Israel
- 7 pm, Membership Committee

20 Tuesday
30 Tishri

21 Wednesday
1 Heshvan

- 4 pm, Kadimah, Golden Gate Lutheran Church

22 Thursday
2 Heshvan

23 Friday
3 Heshvan

- 6:04 pm, Candle lighting
- 6:30 pm, Tot Shabbat service
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat service, led by Barak Gale and Eileen Levy

24 Saturday
4 Heshvan

- 9 am, Trail Midrash
- 9:30 am, Kadimah
- 10 am, Dor Rishon Torah brunch

25 Sunday
5 Heshvan

26 Monday
6 Heshvan

27 Tuesday
7 Heshvan

28 Wednesday
8 Heshvan

- 4 pm, Kadimah, Golden Gate Lutheran Church

29 Thursday
9 Heshvan

- 6:30 pm, Ritual Committee

30 Friday
10 Heshvan

- 5:56 pm, Candle lighting
- 6 pm, HIV Support Group dinner
- 8:15 pm, Shabbat Lech-L'cha, led by Batya Kalis and Brian Besser

31 Saturday
11 Heshvan

- 9:30 am, Kadimah

East Bay Service

10/16 1087 53rd St., Oakland;
call Hilary Zaid
(510/654-8907) for
more information.

NOVEMBER FORWARD DEADLINES

FOR ADVERTISING MONDAY, OCTOBER 5

To place a display ad, call Roslyn Fuerman (510/526-1209 or froslyn@earthlink.net). To place a classified ad, call the office.

FOR ARTICLES WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7

Please submit articles via e-mail to robinl@nolo.com. If you do not have e-mail, submit them both on a 3½-inch disk and hard copy on paper *double spaced*. Write "Attn. Gaily Forward" on top and mail to CSZ. *No deadline extensions will be given.*

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Adult Education Fall Calendar

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Talmud/תלמוד v. Study or learning. Torah/תורה n. Jewish content.

Diversity Dialogues

Panel presentations and discussion
Sundays 7-8:30 pm
Oct 18 • Nov 15 • Jan 24
Location TBA
Come once or come often

Opportunities for the congregation to explore our own diversity...in a few of its forms. All are welcome!

October: Views of Zionism
November: "Kids at Sha'ar Zahav: a dialogue for parents and non-parents"
January: "Old, young and in between at Sha'ar Zahav"

Trail Midrash

Jacob Rothman
Prudence Carter
Shabbat Mornings
9:30 at Mishkan Dolores
10:15 at the trailhead
Oct. 24 • Dec. 26
Sites TBA
Come once or come often

Spend Shabbat morning hiking in Bay Area parks ... creating Midrash. Bring songs, poetry, & writings that compliment the week's Torah portion. October's hike is for intermediate level hikers. December's is for beginners.

Synagogue Architecture: In a Day

Jamie Hyams
A Lehrhaus Judaica Class
Sunday, December 6
1:00-5:00 pm
\$20 mbr./\$30 non-mbr.
At CSZ, 290 Dolores

Using slides and video, this class will give you an historic overview of synagogue architecture worldwide. The class will also include a presentation by our architect, Jonathan Goldman, about how our new building fits in with synagogue architecture throughout time and place.

Chanukah Art Fair

Various Artists
Sunday, December 13
1:00-4:30 PM
\$10 mbr./\$15 non-mbr.
At CSZ, 290 Dolores

Come let your artistic self play for the day! We will be making Chanukah crafts-dreidels, menorahs, etc.-some of which you can take home others we encourage you to give away as Tzedakah.

Israeli Art: Tour & Film

Sunday, October 25
4:30-8:30pm
Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 701 Mission St. @ 3rd Street
\$5 tour / \$6 movie
come to part or all of this event

We will take a docent led tour of the current exhibits at Yerba Buena, including "Desert Cliche: Israel Now-Local Images" which has art by Jewish & Arab Israelis. Following the tour we will dine together and then return to watch two Israeli movies, "Jenny & Jenny" and "Have You Ever Shot Anyone", by Michal Avid.

Queer Talmud

Rabbi Jane Litman
Tue. noon-1:00 pm
Oct. 13 & 27 • Nov. 10 & 24
Dec. 8
Site TBA
\$10 non-member fee
Come once or come often

Clear your Tuesday lunchtime calendar and drop-in for some traditional text-based learning. We will explore the homo-erotic relationship between Rabbi Yohannon and Resh Lakish and will examine the laws of Avodah Zara, Queer Worship Practices.

Deepening Jewish Spirituality

Rabbi Jane Litman
Wed. 7-8:00 pm
November 4
7 weeks
Site TBA
Come once or come often

Employing open discussion, guided and silent meditation, and some exploration of Jewish texts, participants will work together on core spiritual issues, such as God-imagery, moral right, personal integrity and the meaning of existence from a Jewish communal perspective. Open to radical atheists and true believers alike.

American Jewish Ideologies

Rabbi Jane Litman
Wed. 8:00-9:30 pm
November 4
7 weeks
Site TBA
\$100 non-mbr. fee

Discover the origins of Reform, Orthodox, Conservative and Renewal Judaism. Examine and discuss fundamental philosophical beliefs of these movements in relation to issues such as authority, revaluation, personal practice and other topics of interest to class members. There will be optional outside reading to enrich in-class learning.

Harvey Milk's 20th Yahrzeit: Tikkun Leyl

Come honor the legacy of Harvey Milk at a special Shabbat service & all night study session on Friday, November 20.

For information & class locations, call the CSZ office, 415-861 6932.

Jewish Studies Program

Jewish Studies Program

Diversely Dialogues

This program is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Jewish culture, history, and thought. The program is open to all students, regardless of their background or previous knowledge of Jewish studies.

Tell Midrash

This program is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of Jewish culture, history, and thought. The program is open to all students, regardless of their background or previous knowledge of Jewish studies.

Synagogue Architecture in a Day

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Chavrusa At Fair

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Israeli Art Tour & Film

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Quest Jewish

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Hebrew and Jewish Studies Program